

ABSTRACT

A biopsy device suitable for collection of a tissue sample from a
biopsy site in a body lumen is provided. The biopsy device comprises a combination
of an introducer assembly, a cutter assembly, and an endoscope assembly that coact
5 with one another. The introducer assembly includes a hollow sheath having a distal
end portion defining an aperture suitable for receiving a tissue mass therein. The
cutter assembly includes a cutter tube having a distal end portion with a cutting
edge. The cutter tube is sized to fit axially within the introducer sheath. The
endoscope assembly includes a bundle of optical fibers sized to fit axially within the
10 cutter tube. In use, the fiber optic bundle of the endoscope is nested within the
cutter tube, which in turn is nested within the introducer sheath to form a co-axial
structure.